

Application Serial No. 10/648,095  
Examiner: E.D. Culbreth  
Art Unit: 3616

PATENT  
M&G No. 13425.0038US01

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. No new matter has been added.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A passenger protecting apparatus comprising an airbag which is provided above a door opening of a vehicle body in a folded situation and is inflated and unfurled downward in gas inflow to protect a passenger,

~~wherein said airbag is fixed to said vehicle body by a fitting through a bracket; and~~

~~wherein said bracket positions a through-hole, through which the another fitting to fix the bracket to said vehicle body is inserted, below said airbag attached fixed to and housed in said vehicle body~~

wherein said airbag is unified with a bracket through a through-hole formed at one end of the bracket; and

wherein said bracket is fastened, fixed, and attached to said vehicle body by a fitting through another through-hole formed at the other end of the bracket and located below said airbag.

2. (Currently Amended) A passenger protecting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~a fitted hole provided in said vehicle body and a protruded protrusion portion which can be fitted fit in a fit-in hole provided in said vehicle body are is provided at an upper one end of said bracket.~~

3-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching a passenger protecting apparatus according to claim 1 comprising, providing a passenger protecting apparatus including an airbag which is provided above a door opening of a vehicle body in a folded situation and is inflated and unfurled downward in gas inflow to protect a passenger, wherein said airbag is unified with a bracket through a through-hole formed at one end of the bracket; and wherein said bracket is fastened, fixed, and attached to said vehicle body by a fitting through another through-hole

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formed at the other end of the bracket and located below said airbag,

wherein after said airbag is attached to said bracket in advance, thereby making a subassembly, attaching said subassembly is attached to said vehicle body.

8 (Canceled)

9. (Original) A method for attaching a passenger protecting apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said subassembly is attached to said vehicle body with a bolt and nut.

10. (Original) A method for attaching a passenger protecting apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said subassembly is attached to said vehicle body with a rivet.